Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

# Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 01871 080730Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SS-15
PRS-01 IO-13 /052 W
----------080733Z 068194 /22
R 080720Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2514
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 1871

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, KS, BC, KE
SUBJECT: KOREAN DIPLOMATIC MISSION TO BOTSWANA

REF: GABORONE 545

1. EMBOFF BRIEFED HAN SOK-CHIN, CHIEF, MOFA EAST AFRICA DIVISION ON SUBSTANCE REFTEL MARCH 7. HAN EXPRESSED SOME SURPRISE AT ABSENCE NORTH KOREAN ACTIVITY, AND GRATITUDE FOR EMBASSY GABORONE'S INFORMATION AND ADVICE.

2. HAN THEN SAID HE WILL RECOMMEND MOFA SEND YON HA-KU, ROK AMBASSADOR TO NAIROBI WHO IS ALSO ACCREDITED TO GABORONE, TO BOTSWANA "IN THE NEAR FUTURE" IN HOPES YON CAN DISCOVER SOME FORM OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE KOREA COULD PROVIDE BOTSWANA TO "IMPROVE RELATIONS". HAN SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED MEDICAL DOCTORS AND TAEKWONDO INSTRUCTORS AS POSSIBILITIES. PER REFTEL, EMBOFF STRESSED GOB SENSITIVITY ON OFFERS OF ASSISTANCE WHICH MIGHT BE CONSTRUED AS QUID PRO QUO FOR A VOTE IN THE UN. MENTIONING LONG-TERM POSSIBILITY DEVELOPMENT MINERAL RESOURCES IN BOTSWANA, HAN RESPONDED HE CONCEIVES YON'S MISSION MORE IN TERMS OF SIMPLY EXPLORING MEANS OF DEVELOPING A COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIP, BUT ADDED CONFIDENTIAL

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THAT OF COURSE, BOTSWANA'S UN VOTE IS ALSO A MATTER OF OBVIOUS CONCERN.

3. HAN SAID HE WILL NOTIFY EMBASSY ONCE FINAL DECISION ON YON MISSION IS MADE.

4. COMMENT: HAN DOES NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT

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POLICY LEVEL THINKING IN MOFA. HIS RECOMMENDATIONS
MAY BE ALTERED BY MORE SENIOR OFFICIALS.
STERN

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# Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009
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**Disposition History:** n/a
**Disposition Reason:**
**Disposition Remarks:**
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**Enclosure:** n/a
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**Type:** TE
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**Review Markings:**
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